

Agness – Illahe Road Construction

News April 4, 2003

This project is located approximately 30 miles up the Rogue River from Gold Beach, Oregon. This project consists of a complete highway reconstruction of approximately 3.5 miles of roadway. The project begins at the intersection of Curry County Road Number 375 and Forest Service Road 33 and continues along the Rouge River to Foster Bar. This work will consist or mechanically stabilized earth walls, rock buttresses, rockery walls, drainage structures, guardrail, and paving. When finished there will be one full lane with many new turnouts and viewpoints, which will improve traffic flow along the river. October 2002 the Federal Highway Administration awarded a \$4.34 million contract to Roy E. Ladd Construction of Redding, California. The completion date for this project is October 2003.

During the week of April 7th, Ladd Construction continues work on the pipe replacement at Lone Tree Creek. The 10 foot diameter pipe has been placed in the stream channel and is now ready for backfill as the rain lets up. This will create up to 1 hour traffic delays between the hours of 7:00am to 5:30pm Monday thru Friday. Ladd Construction will also continue preparing the excavation work to widen the roadway throughout the project. During early April traffic delays will be a maximum of 1 hour. When these lengthy delays are used the road will be open for traffic at the top of the hour.

Road closures have been scheduled for April 21st. Beginning April 21st traffic delays will be significant. It is at this time that Ladd Construction will start to excavate for the major retaining walls for the project. This work will require the need to close the roadway while mass excavation occurs. This will pose the following schedule: 1 hour delays Monday 7:00am to 5:00pm, Road Closed 8:00am Tuesday to 5:00pm Thursday, 1 hour delays Friday 7:00am to 5:00pm with no weekend work. This schedule will continue until these retaining walls are complete. While the road is closed there will be a clearly signed detour route to Foster Bar.

Due to safety concerns the Forest Service Illahe Campground located in the middle of the project is closed to the public until completion of the project.

There is other work planned to occur on the project, which may create more delays. These delays will occur with very little advance notice as this work will occur as materials arrive. The power and phone lines must be relocated while the roadwork takes place. Within the next couple weeks the phone lines will be removed from the poles and placed along the river to ensure those customers east of Illahe continue to receive the best service possible. The power lines however will be removed and a temporary generator installed next week so that these customers will continue with their service while providing a safe construction environment for the construction crews.

Federal Highway now has a web page that this and all future newsletters and project photos will also be posted at. As the road closures get closer a printable detour map will be available at this web site. The address to this page will be changing so please be patient, as it will get easier. The current address is <http://www.wfl.fha.dot.gov/projects/agness/>. The new easy web address pointer is www.agness-road.org.

All problems, concerns, and questions should be directed to the Federal Highway Administration's Project Engineer currently located in Gold Beach, OR:

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